

ANOTHER PROGRESSIVE RETRO.

The Progressive organs have for months been grinding out paucities of rejoicing at what the Progressives would do last Tuesday in the election in the First West Virginia District to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Representative John W. Davis, who has become Solicitor-General of the United States. The event of this election, boasted the Progressive prophets, would show a marked increase in Progressive sentiment and strength, not only in West Virginia but also in the country at large.

In 1912, through fusion of the Progressives and the Republicans, the plurality of the Democratic candidate for Congress was reduced to 164 votes. Tuesday, with separate Progressive and Republican candidates in the field, the Democrat flashed first over the tape with a plurality of more than 2,700. The Progressive ran a bad third.

Comparison with the figures of the presidential vote of 1912 in the eight counties forming the First Congressional District of West Virginia, demonstrates that there has been a decided slump of Progressives to the Republican party. In 1912 the Progressive vote was 13,237, and the Republican 12,702. Mr. Roosevelt led Mr. Taft by 55. This year the Progressive candidate for Congress, who was the joint candidate of the Republicans and Progressives in 1912, polled but 5,721 votes against his Republican adversary's 10,352, and ran but a few hundred votes ahead of the Socialist candidate.

West Virginia is the State that Glasscock, one of the Seven Little Governors, proposed to turn over to Roosevelt last year, but it gave Wilson a plurality of 24,685. The Progressive tidal wave, of which we have heard so much of late, seems to be receding. There is no evidence of its existence so far.

The Republicans had cause for exultation in this latest barometrical reading, because, as in Maine, the Progressives lent heavily to them, but the Democrats have been given more reason for rejoicing. The Democrats have improved their position. Tuesday's verdict is an endorsement of the Democratic tariff policy coming close upon the passage of the Underwood-Simmons bill. The labor element refuses to join with the farm element in voting to unseat the party that passed that measure. The Wheeling mill workers, assured that the government will stand by them in any attempt by their employers to cut wages because of the tariff, believe the promise and believe that a low tariff will reduce the cost of living. The big fact of the First West Virginia result is that the Democratic party is drowning the chorus of Republican and Progressive calamity-howlers.

THE MAN WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN PRESIDENT.

Timothy L. Woodruff, who died a few days ago, was a unique figure in American politics of his day. He came very near being President of the United States. If Theodore Roosevelt had stuck to his original purpose at the Republican National Convention which met in Philadelphia in 1900, Woodruff would have been the murdered McKinley's successor.

Woodruff had been aptly described as "a kind of Peter Pan," because, to the day of his death, he seemed immature and youthful in appearance. He was fifty-five at his death, but to thousands was still "young Tim." His face was his misfortune.

The Republican boss of Brooklyn wished to run him for Vice-President in 1900. Mark Hanna, then in control of the situation, called Mr. Woodruff into consultation. "Tim," said he, "you're too young for Vice-President." Theodore Roosevelt was the Senator's choice. "But," replied Woodruff, "I'm older than Roosevelt." "Well," said Hanna, "you look the thing."

In fact, Woodruff went through life looking too young to be taken seriously. There he was elected lieutenant-governor of New York. That was the only office he ever held. Alfred Henry Lewis said of him: "If I had been Mr. Woodruff, I would have had to beat the bush while others burned the forest." He replied modestly: "I never came to the forest when the forest was burning."

The Massachusetts cranberry crop has been hurt by snow, but we will have plenty of old Mr. Tim's will-grape jelly to go with that Thanksgiving turkey.

A Harvard junior for a bet has gone to Europe without a cent. That's the way Harvard juniors usually come back from Europe.

"What will the Legislature do?" inquires The Richmond Times-Dispatch. Not time, let us hope.—The Columbia State.

So our Solons may take time, but that is not a crime that needs pardoning, even by South Carolina's ally, England.

We assure the gas experts that gas cannot be measured by heat units. It is generally the poorest gas that makes people the hottest.

GAS-SELLING AS A BUSINESS.

The silence preserved by the visiting gas experts on the Richmond gas situation is very polite. It is too polite. It becomes suggestive.

They are not reticent as to what is done elsewhere, and we may wisely draw some conclusions. The main conclusion is that we ought to treat the municipal gas works more as a business and less as a charity. We ought to be out hustling for new gas users. Then we would save the inevitable loss that results from the actual use of our plant to only two-thirds of its capacity. The superintendent himself admits that we could sell more gas if we had consumers. Then why not make more vigorous efforts to get consumers?

Why not imitate the New York private company, that had twenty women demonstrators, who visited \$5,000 patrons one year to teach them how to use gas and cook with it to better advantage? Why not have a showroom, where the housekeeper could see the latest apparatus for cooking, heating and working with gas? The private sellers of electric power in Richmond do not wait for their customers to learn of electric coffee pots and curling irons. They tell them of such inventions, and sell more current as a result. In Western cities they will heat the whole house by gas, supply light, and plenty of hot water, and if enough is used, the price is cut 50 cents per 2,000. Has Richmond ever done any of these simple business things to increase gas consumption?

Further, Richmond could well appropriate money to advertise her gas business. This New York company spent \$60,000 for publicity. We imagine no private company making an income of \$200,000 and dependent for its business on a whole community, fails to advertise to increase its sales. Some newspaper space, a few cards in the street cars, some booklets telling of the advantages of gas—all the proven means of publicity could be tried. The power of suggestion is well recognized in modern business. Richmond might use it to make more citizens use gas.

We are making a profit on gas at present. We could make a greater profit by increasing the use of gas to the full capacity of our equipment. The overhead charges would be reduced. The price might be lowered. Richmond ought to get bigger business by big business methods.

ART AND THE BIG DITCH.

The press of America seems waiting for a great outburst of art at the completion of the Panama Canal. Collier's Weekly asks where is the national and international poet who can voice in lyric beauty the gigantic triumph of man's skill in linking two oceans through the backbone of a continent? The St. Louis Post-Dispatch points out that Giuseppe Verdi wrote the famous "Aida" at the order of Khedive Ismail Pasha, to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal. Mariette Bey, a distinguished Egyptologist, dug up some suitable lyrics. . . . and around an admirable operatic story Verdi constructed a masterpiece.

The Post might have gone further to suggest what a wealth of operatic material must wait both librettist and composer in the remains and legends of the prehistoric races who peopled the present Mexico, Central America and South America. The struggle between the Incas and their Spanish conquerors might well supply beauty of story and setting to be made into great music by a great composer.

The literature of the canal has thus far proved very utilitarian in tone. It is about the canal itself. Much of it is purely technical, and the rest deals with the picturesque aspects of canal life. The few poems that have appeared are so sorry things, dwarfed by the theme they undertake. Indeed, it looks as if artists are conscious that the full meaning of the canal is too big for words. When President Wilson touched off the dynamite by a 4,000-mile spark, all he could say was, "Well, Gamboa is busted." The facts in the case are so huge that they are poetry without further adornment. If the Martians ever did dig a canal from one end of their planet to the other, as is rumored, we would like to know what words they used to express the glory of the achievement.

Then, too, the idea of the canal is poetic, but the thing itself is mechanical. It has been mostly a matter of engineering and organization. Some of these aspects have been beautifully caught in clothing and paintings, even in photographs, but the poet has a hard time making steam-shovels beautiful.

The final significance of the canal is social. What it means to the development of traffic and intercourse between all points in this hemisphere and beyond is its deep lesson. We join with the other art-lovers in wishing for a genius supreme enough to put this fact in glowing and immortal words.

We trust the Medical College football team will not think they are at a clinic.

The Long Island surftraps are going to have baby shows to prove they are good mothers. How about a husband show?

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NIGHT SCHOOLS FOR ADULTS.

The need for public night schools in Richmond is amply proven by the attendance. This year the authorities are hard put to find room and equipment to accommodate the increased number of students. The value of training in high school subjects, in the mechanical branches, in commercial work and in domestic science has come home to hundreds of young men and women who are prevented from getting this help through the regular channels. They are getting an education at night, and they deserve every aid that Richmond can give.

Just as encouraging as the increased enrollment of young people is the attendance of adults. Superintendent Chandler takes great pride in his class of fourteen men and women who are supplementing the instruction of past years with nightly lessons from the public schools. We doubt whether many people know that such a class exists. That it does exist is one of the most hopeful signs in our community life.

It is no easy thing for the grown man to return to school. His pride has to be taken in hand, and his common sense brought into use. He must overcome his own doubts and the short-sighted joking of his neighbors. Yet the serious purpose and determination that enables him to face these obstacles and overcome them shows that he is worth every bit of help that can be offered. The citizen who is eager for learning and self-improvement is the one we need. Practically, too, he reaps his own reward in his increased efficiency and enlarged outlook. No matter what he does, he will be a better workman and worth more money if he gets expert training.

We hope soon to hear of classes for adults in subjects in which many grown people of Richmond need instruction—namely, government, social ethics, political economy and citizenship. Richmond needs a more enlightened citizenship. Upon this depends the character of our government, and so the progress we make toward better municipal conditions. The workman in Richmond needs to read more books, talk more about real politics, and less about petty personal politics, and to work in general for a better city in which to live and raise his family. He should read more books and subscribe for more periodicals.

The desire and the ability to profit by such things must come from the public school. We are very glad that the school system has abolished the age limit and is reaching out to all the people.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S METHODS.

While President Wilson is laboring to have the currency bill placed beside the tariff measure as completed legislation, it is interesting to read what the London Times regards as the methods by which he steered clear of disaster in getting the Underwood bill through. The Times thinks he achieved this "by taking an early and personal share in the drafting of the bill; secondly, by consulting freely with the leaders of his party in both houses; and thirdly, by judicious appeals to the public when there seemed a danger of his purpose being thwarted by the influence of 'special interests'."

The result is, according to the Times, that a better bill has been passed than most Americans expected, and there has been nothing approaching a party rupture.

Will the same means avail with the currency measure? It is certainly the result of an "early and personal share in drafting." The somewhat new term "administration measure" is used to indicate the President's personal interest in the legislation. There has certainly been enough consultation between the President and the leaders of his party, though we cannot say that the same harmony exists as to the currency bill as existed on tariff revision.

No direct appeal has been made to the country such as was taken in Mr. Wilson's warning as to the "insidious lobby working to defeat tariff revision." Yet the country is pretty well informed as to the opposition. What makes such an appeal less powerful than on the tariff question is that the country is not so well educated on currency reform. Long years of dispute had given most men some idea of tariff principles and needs. The same stage of popular education has not been reached on currency problems. They are complex, and the variety of counsel offered confuses the plain man. He is disposed to trust technical questions to technical experts, and, therefore, desires to give full heed to what the bankers say. At the same time, he is suspicious of big money, and disposed to listen to nonexperts, in whom he has confidence.

The desire of the country for honest and efficient currency reform is just as strong as for revision downward, but it is less plain what honest and efficient currency reform is. We agree with the Times, however, that the people trust the President, and that his third level of power can be moved to force action.

Do any of these technical papers deal with the "Dangers of Blowing It Out?"

There seems to be two certainties in modern ocean tragedies: that many brave and gallant gentlemen will respond with noble heroism to the call of duty; that greed and carelessness will always balk their courage with poor life-saving material.

The New York Times argues learnedly to prove that biplanes are faster than monoplanes in high winds. Most people want to stick fast to the earth in high winds.

Texas doctors have discovered that phlegm can be grafted on human bones with 75 per cent of successful recoveries. We have often thought that the monkey was not man's real ancestor.

There is a kind of silent emptiness about life since baseball stopped.

THE DAYS OF REAL SPORT.



THE TRAMP ARTIST

ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT

By ROY K. MOULTON.

The Old Reliable. Blame it on John D. If Congress passes vicious bills, If railroad trains should run amuck, If business ventures have had luck, If labor union men have struck, Blame it on John D.

If some staid preacher goes astray, Blame it on John D. And if some woman runs away, Blame it on John D. If cow meat jumps 2 cents a pound, Or some Jim crow bank proves un- sound, And its cashier cannot be found, Blame it on John D.

If father gets a case of grip, Blame it on John D. Or if the hens contract the pip, Blame it on John D. If with theague you should shake, Or vaccination doesn't take, If baby gets theummy ache, Blame it on John D.

If you have failed all through your life, Blame it on John D. And have to quit in worldly strife, Blame it on John D. If when you go to realms on high, Or to the land of the living die, Don't take the time to ask him why, Blame it on John D.

The Diary of a Bonehead. Not long ago, when my wits were out, I had a bonehead friend of mine that I was too poorly and wished that I could, in some way, reduce the adipose tissue with which I was so boundedly blessed. My friend is one of those persons who appreciate a practical joke when it is done at the expense of somebody else. He immediately committed to me a personal and confidential remark to twenty-five or thirty of his friends.

A week after that, on the thirty-first, the mailman brought only seven letters from that concern. The next day he brought eight, and it was not long before he had more than he could carry, and my mail was brought to me from seven or fourteen wagons from the post-office. The man would bring my mail and pile it on my front porch.

I began burning the letters in my furnace, but could not keep ahead of the deluge. I had received several of them brought to me from seven or fourteen wagons from the post-office. The man would bring my mail and pile it on my front porch.

According to Uncle Abner. One lucky thing is that very few of the aviators seem to have the habit of chewing tobacco.

It is getting so nowadays that no fellow kin stir up a financial panic unless everybody is with it.

Most any fellow would rather be tight than be President of Mexico. What has become of all them "good" six-figure-quarterly seagulls?

I never yet saw a hotel clerk who



Queries and Answers

Mail Carriers. May a rural carrier convey articles free of charge? How much liquid in weight may now be carried in the parcel post? May a rural carrier take medicine to deliver free to persons on the road?—S. C. HUBERT.

The regulations forbid the carrying of articles whether medicine or not, except in the case of postal mail. The weight of liquid is limited by parcel post is the same as the weight of other articles, or rather, in the absence of specific instructions to the contrary, this is the general interpretation.

John Randolph.

Where was John Randolph buried?—A. P. TAYLOR.

First at "Roanoke" in Charlotte County, and then in New Wood. The removal was made in 1875.

Profile Author.

Who has written and published the greatest number of books of all American authors?—S. C. MOORE.

Probably Samuel Griswold Goodrich. He is credited in the handbooks to over 1,000 books, most of them for young people, and the excellent of his popularity many books not written by him. Peter Parley. It has been estimated that 7,000,000 of his books have been sold. Many of them were school readers, and the excellent of his popularity what to include in such texts is borne out by the fact that most of his sections particularly in the poetry, may still be found in many of the "anthologies."

A Sermon.

Last Sunday night I heard a sermon in one of our churches which was composed entirely of stories and illustrations of the text. Does this sort of preaching amount to anything or not?

All sorts of preaching amount to something. The sermon which would prove of little interest or edification to some hearers might be very exactly the opposite to others, and the illustrations which you object to might, possibly, be necessary to the comprehension of some less quick-minded hearers.

St. James's. Why is the English court called the Court of St. James?—A. A. LITTE.

It is not. It is called the Court of St. James's, because it is under the shadow of the "courts" or levees of the English sovereign through many years were held in that palace until they were lately removed to Buckingham Palace.

Record-Breaking Crowds.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Greensboro, N. C., October 16.—Record-breaking crowds attended the Central Carolina Fair to-day, and the annual exhibition is declared by visitors to be better than in other years. Two fights were made by the biplane. The races were good, and the fireworks to-night were enjoyed by thousands.

CONCLUDE ARGUMENT TO-DAY.

Case of Gonzales vs. Charlotte Observer Before Judge Boyd. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Greensboro, N. C., October 16.—Argument was begun to-day in Federal Court before Judge Boyd in the case of Ambrose Gonzales vs. the Observer Publishing Company, of Charlotte, and the case comes up on the report of the special master, who found in favor of the plaintiffs, Gonzales and J. C. Hemphill. Several prominent attorneys appear in the case. Judge Boyd may not render a decision for several days.

EXTRA SESSION ADJOURNS TO-DAY

Tennessee House Passes Three Enforcement Bills Already Passed by Senate.

Nashville, Tenn., October 16.—The second extraordinary session of the Tennessee General Assembly will adjourn sine die to-morrow, according to the prediction of leaders to-night. To-day the House passed three of the so-called law enforcement bills which had previously passed the Senate. By agreement, the fourth bill, empowering the Governor to remove derelict officials, will be dropped. It already having failed to pass the Senate.

The bill prohibiting the shipment of liquor into the State passed the House by a vote of 92 to 4; the bill prohibiting intrastate shipments of liquor passed by 82 to 8, while the bill to declare saloons a nuisance passed by 79 to 15. In the Senate the vote cast against the three measures ranged from two to five. All of the bills had been introduced by Democratic majorities, while practically all the Republicans and Independents had stood for their passage at the first extra session.

In the passage of the bills a compromise was reached by which the regular session of the General Assembly, the measure providing for removal of derelict officials and a provision in the bill making it become operative in 1914. Two other bills became effective at once unless vetoed.

The two anti-liquor bills passed to-day are intended to strengthen the Federal law prohibiting the shipping of liquor into dry territory. Although Tennessee has a State-wide prohibition law, it merely prohibits the sale of liquor within four miles of a school-house, and it is seen that this law would not affect the shipment of liquor into the State under the Federal statute.

NEWTON INVITED TO ATTEND.

Completion of Federal Building at Washington, N. C., to Be Celebrated. Washington, October 16.—Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Department, today tentatively promised the celebration of the completion of the Federal building at Washington, N. C., to be held on November 11. Mr. Small called attention to the fact that the Washington, N. C., post-office was established under the act of the Federal government was at New York, and Samuel Osborn, of Massachusetts, was serving as the first Postmaster-General of the United States. The Daughters of the American Revolution and other organizations will be represented at the celebration.

Seminary Closes Doors.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Fredericksburg, Va., October 16.—The King's College Seminary, in Caroline County, which has been a thriving educational institution for many years, has closed its doors, only fifteen pupils appearing for the session, which was to begin October 1.

Mrs. Key Howard, 82, an aged and well-known woman of this city, is extremely ill at "Remore," her home here.

Joe Green and George Newton, Jr., two well-known fishermen of Stafford County, brought here to-day two large loads of the rock bass, which were caught in Potomac Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River. The fish weighed 2,000 pounds and a large portion of them were shipped by express to the Philadelphia market.

Operated On for Appendicitis.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Alexandria, Va., October 16.—William H. Gaines, deputy clerk of the United States court for this city, was operated on to-day at the University of Virginia Hospital, Charlottesville, for appendicitis.

SAVE CIVIL SERVICE

Reform League Urges President to Veto Deficiency Bill.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Washington, October 16.—A request that President Wilson veto the urgent deficiency bill because of its provision for withdrawing deputy revenue collectors and deputy marshals from the protection of the civil service was received at the White House to-day from the Civil Service Reform League. The message was as follows:

"On behalf of the National Civil Service Reform League, I earnestly urge that you veto the urgent deficiency appropriation bill because of provision exempting from civil service law subordinates of collectors of internal revenue and marshals. Provision affects not only deputies, but all subordinates of collectors and marshals, and is a vicious attack on the merit system through rider legislation."

ROOT TO WITNESS TARGET PRACTICE

New York Senator Goes to the Arkansas.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Old Point Comfort, Va., October 16.—United States Senator Elihu Root, formerly Secretary of State, went to sea this morning on the battleship Arkansas to action the Atlantic fleet engaged in target practice on the Southern drill grounds.

The Senator arrived this morning from Washington, and the Arkansas was waiting for him. She came in from sea last night especially to meet the Senator.

The Arkansas, besides breaking the world's record for shooting with big guns during the recent practice held off the Virginia Capes, also made a new record for speed on her trial run down from New York two weeks ago.

Senator Root will remain at sea until Saturday. He will probably join President Wilson's party when it arrives from Washington Saturday morning to see the ships fire at targets.

MISTRIAL IN SAUNDERS CASE.

Jury Reports Inability to Agree After Twenty-Four Hours' Consideration.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Elizabeth City, N. C., October 16.—The jury in the case of the United States against W. O. Saunders, editor of the Downhomer, reported to the judge this afternoon at 5 o'clock that it could not agree.

Judge Connor ordered the jury into the courtroom to take a mistrial. He ordered the case to be taken to Newbern for another trial at the next term of Federal Court in Newbern.

The jury had the case for nearly twenty-four hours, and there was no hope of a verdict from the first ballot. Saunders was tried upon the indictments found by the Federal grand jury upon the charge of sending through the mails obscene literature published in the Downhomer. One indictment was based upon an article regarding Governor Bleas.

COAST ARTILLERY ON FIVE-DAY HIKE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Fortress Monroe, Va., October 16.—With Colonel Frederick S. Strong, of the Department of the Chesapeake, in command, ten companies of coast artillery left the fort this morning on a five-day hike.

The soldiers get away at 8 o'clock, and are camping to-night at Big Bethel. They will stop at Yorktown and other places en route, and will also engage in realistic war games. The hike will be subjected to real wartime hardship, and will be required to do picket and other strenuous duties while in camp.

Colonel Fra Hayes, commandant of Fortress Monroe, is the regimental commander. Major Kessler is the acting lieutenant-colonel; Captain McKenney, regimental adjutant; Lieutenant Rose, regimental quartermaster, and Major Lyster, regimental surgeon, with Captain Whaley as his assistant.

The umpires are Major Hero, of Fortress Monroe, and Captain Stanford and Major McAae, of the Fifth Infantry.

GLoucester EXHIBIT GAINS THIRD PLACE AT STATE FAIR

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Gloucester Courthouse, Va., October 16.—The second day of the Gloucester Fair was a great success. There was an enormous crowd present, including many people from King and Queen, Mathews and Middlesex Counties. There was great enthusiasm over the fact that the Gloucester exhibit to the State Fair, which was shown intact, had gained third place in Richmond, jumping up from the sixth place two years ago. The horse, cat and cattle show were very fine, and the riding and driving first rate. Prizes will be delivered to-morrow.

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The National State and City Bank invites you to open an account either subject to check or at 3% interest in its Savings Department. CAPITAL and SURPLUS \$1,600,000.00